

Exmoor National Park  
Historic Environment Report Series No 12

# THE BOUNDARY OF THE ROYAL FOREST OF EXMOOR: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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This report series includes interim reports, policy documents and other information relating to the historic environment of Exmoor National Park.

Further hard copies of this report can be obtained from the Exmoor National Park Historic Environment Record:  
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## **FRONT COVER:**

**Section 6 of The Royal Forest Boundary showing a bank running over the top of Setta Barrow.**

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## SUMMARY

This report is based upon fieldwork carried out along the length of the boundary of the former Royal Forest of Exmoor, to assess the form of the boundary as it exists today. It also draws upon evidence from documentary sources referenced in the Exmoor National Park Historic Environment Record. The findings of this report suggest that the Royal Forest of Exmoor has never been enclosed by a continuous boundary wall, but has utilised a range of natural features and boundary stones. In the post-medieval period it appears that attempts to formalise the boundary with a stone wall or earth bank have been successful along some stretches but did not extend along the entirety of the boundary. This report makes brief assessments of the condition of each section of boundary, with recommendations for areas where future conservation work may be targeted.



**Figure 1:**  
 The extent of the Royal Forest of Exmoor between 1400 and 1819,  
 also showing its earlier extents (copyright John Hodgson)

## INTRODUCTION

The Royal Forest of Exmoor was one of many Forests created and retained by the Crown during the medieval and post medieval period as royal hunting grounds and to generate revenue from grazing livestock in summer months. In the case of Exmoor there is no evidence for the King ever having hunted here and the Forest was leased out for nearly two centuries until an Act of Inclosure in 1815 (Siraut 2013, 1). Following this it was disposed of by the Crown in 1819, the majority purchased by John Knight, a midlands industrialist, who then began in earnest the reclamation of Exmoor (Orwin and Sellick 1970, 39-43).

Before the reclamation the boundary of the Forest was defined by a combination of streams, boundary stones, prehistoric barrows, cairns and individual trees. The boundary was reinforced by regular 'perambulations' (Burton 1989, 29).

As part of his terms of sale, John Knight began to build a boundary wall around his new estate, because of which "several of the old boundary marks of the Forest seem to have been absorbed or converted in its construction, being regarded, no doubt, as obsolete." Orwin & Sellick 1970, 52)

The first history of the Forest by E. J. Rawle in 1893 was followed by a comprehensive account by E. T. MacDermot in 1911. Subsequent publications focusing on the Royal Forest include Roger Burton, C.S. Orwin and R.J. Sellick and Mary Siraut who also authored the recently published 'A field guide to the Royal Forest of Exmoor'.

Although the perambulation of the Forest has been recently revived as an annual event, the full length of the Forest boundary has not been surveyed in its entirety. The purpose of this report is to establish and record the form of the boundary around its entire length, with a brief assessment of the condition of the boundary to help inform future conservation works.

This survey was undertaken as part of the Exmoor Moorland Landscape Partnership Scheme, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The fieldwork for this report was carried out by Peter Bonvoisin in July 2012. All photographs are credited to Peter Bonvoisin unless otherwise stated. The report was written by Peter Bonvoisin and edited by Faye Balmond.



## METHODOLOGY

Before setting out in the field a basic working knowledge of the Exmoor Forest boundary was needed. Since this is the first time the Exmoor Forest boundary has been surveyed there are no previous reports to refer to. The Exmoor National Park Historic Environment Record (ENPHER) provided information on published sources referring to the Forest boundary, along with detail on relevant sites on or close to the boundary, such as barrows or boundary stones. Many of the points featured in this report had been recorded prior to this survey as individual monuments, rather than in the context of boundary markers. The Royal Forest boundary was found referred to in a number of published texts, often in relation to perambulations.

For the purpose of this report the Royal Forest boundary has been sub-divided into a number of carefully chosen, smaller sections. The primary reason for this was to improve labelling and systematic recording around the boundary. The start and end point of each section is accessible by track or road to limit cross country travel during the survey and for safety reasons. All of the sections are divided into lengths taking between one and two days to survey in their entirety. This ensured an effective flow from walking to recording each section.

The five main types of boundary were researched before fieldwork began. These are: boundary stones, barrows and cairns, dry stone walls, banks (often stone faced) and water courses. Other boundary features such as the Hoar Oak Tree were also noted. The boundary type was predicted before fieldwork to plan how much time was needed in the field, and to match ground conditions to the weather forecast; this was especially useful in the very wet summer of 2012.

A height, width and depth measurement was recorded for each boundary stone, along with any present/visible erosion hollows. Two photographs were taken of each stone and these were recorded on field record sheets (see appendix 1 for example). Barrows were not recorded in detail since they already have comprehensive ENPHER monument records and several are Scheduled Monuments. Watercourses were not recorded other than at the start and end points of where they contribute to the boundary. For dry stone walls and banks, a photograph was taken along the wall and the national grid references of each end recorded.

All data was recorded on field record sheets. This was then transcribed onto an Excel spreadsheet and forms a gazetteer as an appendix to this report. Photographs were recorded numerically by section and given a direction in

brackets e.g. 1 (N). Due to the large number of files, photographs have not been printed with this report but are available digitally through the Exmoor National Park HER. They are stored in folders which relate to the sections of the report.

The original field record sheets are deposited with the Exmoor National Park Historic Environment Record.



# CHARACTER OF SECTIONS OF THE ROYAL FOREST BOUNDARY

A summary of the character of each section of the Royal Forest boundary as surveyed is given below to provide a brief assessment of the form of the boundary across its length.

## **Section 1: Alderman's Barrow to Black Barrow**

This part of the boundary is made up purely of boundary stones, not all of which can be found. A number of stones identified in 1908 (the 6 inch Ordnance Survey) are no longer apparent on the ground. There are six stones currently visible; the main concern with these is that the recumbent stones may become covered in vegetation and lost. All the boundary stones that are still standing were assessed as stable.

## **Section 2: Black Barrow to Tom's Hill**

There are no surviving boundary stones marking this section of the boundary. As mentioned in *The Reclamation of Exmoor Forest* (Orwin and Sellick 1970, 52) they may have been incorporated into Knight's boundary wall. The boundary runs along a wall from Black Barrow, past Kittuck Barrow and meets the river between Little Tom's Hill and Tom's Hill Barrows. This boundary comprises an earth bank with dry stone wall facings. Only in the valleys at Kittuck and Tom's Hill is dry stone walling used by itself, and at both of these there are hollows in the valley side which could be associated quarries. The remainder of the boundary is made up of an earth bank with stones set into the side. On most of the bank the stone facing is only visible on the northern side. Section 2 finishes at the branching of Hoccombe water, just above Tom's Hill.

## **Section 3: Tom's Hill to Brendon Two Gates**

The medieval perambulation along this section follows Hoccombe Water, with no other recorded boundary features. This survey has recorded the dry stone wall, built by John Knight, that now runs alongside the watercourse throughout most of this section.

Along this valley there are many depressions in the valley side. These are almost certainly quarries used to obtain stone for the boundary. Most of the quarries are situated towards the eastern end of this section and a declining availability of stone could explain why the dry stone wall fades into stone faced earth bank towards Brendon Two Gates.

The majority of the dry stone wall boundary is collapsed, due to natural weathering and livestock erosion, or it is in a fragile condition. There are a few areas where the dry stone wall has collapsed into the stream and disappeared.

From SS 78841 43438 to SS 78340 43337 the dry stone wall has been, or is in the process of being rebuilt. The rebuilding of the dry stone wall appears to be different in shape and size to the original sections. The wall is also being rebuilt in small sections, rather than as a consistent boundary. After the dry stone wall crosses the river at SS 78691 43449, near the confluence of Hoccombe water and the stream cutting across Lanacombe, there is a small section of the dry stone wall where the capping stones have fallen off a rebuilt section. When the boundary crosses the watercourse again it reverts to an older section of dry stone wall.

The last part of this section follows a stone faced earth bank. Until near to Brendon Two Gates this section of bank is in poor condition. Beginning at SS 77456 43483 parts of this bank almost completely recede into the marshy ground at this area, and where any remains at all, it is supplemented by a modern stock fence.

#### **Section 4: Brendon Two Gates to Saddle Stone**

This section is divided into two boundary types: lengths of stone faced earth bank and boundary stones. There are also a number of mounds/cairns along this section, one of which has been incorporated directly into the boundary (it has a boundary stone placed on top). MacDermot mentions that the medieval boundary consisted of watercourses, barrows and cairns and boundary stones, so these features may have been part of the earlier medieval boundary (MacDermot 1973, 8).

From Brendon Two Gates to Hoarok the boundary is a stone faced earth bank (with small sections of dry stone wall in the valley down to Hoarok). However, there are two large stones (4.4, 4.5), the origin and date of which are unknown, but they appear to be gateposts marking a former gateway through the boundary; they are now perched on the edge of a rapidly eroding gully forming on the south side of the boundary.

Just after Hoarok the first boundary stones are found. Each has been individually recorded. From here to Saddle Stone the focus of the survey moves away from later boundary walls/fences and onto the boundary stones since these seem to have comprised the medieval boundary. From SS 73482 43596 the boundary has no stone faced earth bank alongside it until after Saddle Stone.

Many of the boundary stones along this section are leaning or recumbent. The ground is rather waterlogged, though this may have been exacerbated by the wet summer of 2012. Whilst most of the stones appear to be stable the ground around them does not, and the stones may be at risk of being lost within the peat.

### **Section 5: Saddle Stone to Edgerley Stone**

Immediately to the south of Saddle Stone is a stone faced earth bank, heading southwards up the hill. However, this soon ends leaving an empty stretch of moorland between it and Wood Barrow. From Wood Barrow a stone faced earth bank follows the line of the boundary. The first section of this is damaged but most is in very good condition as it is used as a modern field boundary.

### **Section 6: Edgerley Stone to Kinsford Gate**

This section of the Forest boundary begins at Edgerley Stone. This is not the same point at which section five ends but is down a short stretch of road. It is possible that there were once boundary stones directly between Saddle Stone and Edgerley Stone, however no evidence for this remains today.

The next identifiable boundary stone is Hore Stone. The boundary between here and Edgerley Stone consists of open field and a bank, and is in relatively good condition. After Sloley Stone a road runs south along the boundary. The bank follows this road for approximately 800 m. The bank is low and does show signs of previous erosion, but it has no recent evidence of deterioration. It is protected from livestock damage with a fence, and in one place cuts through Setta barrow, which may well have marked the boundary before the construction of the bank. The kerbstones of the barrow are evident.

At SS 72977 37498, known as Horsehead Stone (though no boundary stone is evident), the bank stops following the boundary, which is then marked for a short distance by a collapsing stone wall. Continuing on, the boundary returns to a stone faced bank running alongside a road, with this section ending at Kinsford Gate Cross.

### **Section 7: Kinsford Gate to Sandyway Cross**

All of this section of the Forest boundary comprises stone faced earth banks alongside the road. There are a few places where boundary stones had previously been recorded, however these were not located during this survey and if still present may no longer be visible due to vegetation growth. One possible boundary stone was located at SS 7791 3399 (Cole's Cross). Like Edgerley Stone it appears to have been used as a gatepost at some point, indicated by the drilled holes in it, and as a result may not be in its original position.

Along this section the stone faced bank is very stable with fencing or trees growing on top of much of it.

### **Section 8: Sandyway Cross to Landacre Gate**

Beginning at Sandyway Cross the first part of section 8 follows the stream called Litton Water. This section is hard to evaluate for damage but the banks and other features adjacent to the watercourse were considered. Boundary stones had previously been identified in this area but none of the existing stones can confidently be called such, as there appears to be much exposed natural rock in this area (ENPHER accessed July 2012). The bank that follows Litton Water for a stretch becomes a dry stone wall alongside the stream, with a number of small sections showing damage or collapse. This dry stone wall is very close to the water course in a relatively inaccessible area and so is protected to some degree from livestock damage. The final part of the boundary alongside Litton Water has no features associated with it.

A stable low earth bank wall with stone facing runs along the next stage of the boundary. Immediately next to the watercourse (SS 81562 32690) the bank is damaged but appears stable, this could change with erosion by the watercourse here. Further from Litton Water the bank is in better condition. At SS 81530 33097, the boundary follows a dry stone wall. This is surrounded by heavy vegetation and as a result is difficult to survey. It is in relatively good condition showing some capstones remaining and overall is upright with a few small collapsed sections. A final section of dry stone wall appears in a much poorer condition as, where the capping stones have gone the dry stone walling has collapsed.

At SS 81430 33760, on Halscombe Allotment, the boundary is marked by a stone faced bank, protected by both low beech hedges and a fence. This bank joins a track ending at Landacre Gate.

### **Section 9: Landacre Gate to Alderman's Barrow**

From Landacre Gate a stone faced hedge bank, topped with beech runs down towards Sherdon Rock, where the boundary then seems to be marked only by the watercourse for a short period before turning north and again becomes a stone faced hedge bank topped with beech. Where there is no beech on short sections of this bank, it has deteriorated severely. Whilst there is still a bank with a fence, the sides are bare earth which has slumped away leaving it exposed and vulnerable to erosion. Beyond this length the bank is again stable, and eventually follows a road where it is also in good condition.

At Red Stone Gate the boundary leaves the road, and for a short distance it cuts

through an open field. Here a boundary stone has previously been recorded, marking the bend in the boundary; however this could not be located. There is a low ditch and ridge also cutting across the field which is most likely an eroded post medieval field boundary. The boundary then follows another stone faced bank. The beech hedge has been laid in sections and a farm track has been created adjacent and alongside part of the hedge. Further down this section there is severe erosion next to the bank. Currently this does not affect or damage the bank though it could become a problem in the future

The bank leads down to another watercourse, the river Exe. The boundary follows the Exe from SS 81823 40133 to SS 81584 40357. At this point, it re-joins a stone faced earth bank. The bank then approximately follows Sparcombe Water. The boundary at SS 81569 40629 cuts through the fields next to Sparcombe water, following no obvious markers or features. Re-joining a stone faced bank further up the watercourse, the boundary appears to follow this until SS 81933 41183. However, there are numerous features on the east side of the watercourse which may have, at some point, functioned as markers for the Exmoor Forest boundary, such as the standing stone above Orchard Bottom, situated at SS 82079 41159.

From this point, the boundary follows a stone faced earth bank to Larkbarrow Corner. Lark Barrow itself may previously have been a boundary marker for the Forest. From here the bank follows the road up to Alderman's Barrow.

## SIGNIFICANCE

The boundary of the Royal Forest is significant for a number of reasons in addition to its historic legal purpose (discussed below), demarcating land owned by the Monarch. Today, even in its variable condition and format, the generally modest man-made form of the Royal Forest boundary contrasts with the majesty and awe of the moorland landscape, reminding people of the challenging climate and terrain of the moor. The prehistoric barrows, cairns and stones which make up the perambulation have strong local and mythical identities, creating a sense of place in an exposed landscape.

The Royal Forest boundary also has significance for moorland edge communities; the gates, barrows and features of the Royal Forest boundary have long been meeting places for the Exmoor hunts and, today, hill walkers. Place names reflect local characters, and watercourses feature in tales of field sports.

### **Historical significance**

The Royal Forest boundary displays a variety of forms as can be seen from the foregoing description. Broadly, the built parts of the boundary comprise field banks which reflect the enclosure of the Forest in the 19th century, and a series of boundary stones which to a degree evoke the nature of the medieval Forest boundary itself. In a sense, therefore, some parts of the Royal Forest boundary are significant as they provide a picture of the medieval perambulation. The more remote moorland boundary consists almost entirely of boundary stones with no other apparent features to delineate the Royal Forest.

The recorded route of the perambulations can still be followed, along waterways, banks and between boundary stones. The Exmoor Forest boundary is highly significant as the defining feature of the most westerly Royal Forest; the only Forest retaining an unbroken lineage of native Red Deer and ancient breed pony; and where, despite disafforestation, the boundary is largely intact and visible.

The boundary documents the transition during the period of disafforestation and attempted reclamation by the Knight family, when the Royal Forest was sold and the boundary transformed into an enclosure for land management, with various forms of banks, some stone faced and topped with hedges.

The boundary stones may not all have been sourced at the creation of the

boundary. There is a long history of recycling materials that are scarce on Exmoor, including larger stones. A number of the boundary stones may even have been displaced prehistoric monuments given a second use in the boundary. Examples of this are the large stones that have been used previously as gateposts near Hoar Oak (as evidenced by their drilled holes). The barrows of Exmoor have also been adopted for use as marker points in the perambulation. One of the best examples of this is Setta Barrow which now has a stone faced bank, demarcating the Knight Estate boundary, running straight over the middle of it. The re-use of more ancient features in this way adds a layer of significance to them as prehistoric monuments, and the naming of them, examples being Setta Barrow and Alderman's Barrow, gives them a practical significance in the landscape today.



# MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

## **Stone faced banks**

Where stone faced banks making up the Royal Forest boundary have been used as modern field boundaries they are generally found to be in a sustainable condition. Some areas of damage were noted but the majority appear to be maintained by the landowner or tenant. Most banks in use as field boundaries have fences on either side of them further protecting them from damage by livestock. It is therefore important that fencing and bank protection is sustained. Efforts should be made, where possible, to prioritise the consolidation of boundaries which form part of the Forest boundary.

## **Dry stone walls**

Section 3 in particular was noted as having a large amount of collapsed dry stone walling. While there is clearly a restoration scheme underway, there remains a very large amount of work to be done. The restored wall is very obviously a different structure being thicker and more stable, but only when constructed in small sections, contrasting with the historic wall. There are parts of reconstructed wall where the capping stones have been lost, a serious structural issue. Specification of the wall restoration work could be reviewed. The work of rebuilding this section of the wall should be maintained if possible, but it is important that it is done in a way that ensures that it does not need major ongoing repairs. Regular monitoring and small scale 'running repairs' should be considered.

## **Boundary stones**

The boundary stones that make up the Royal Forest boundary are the hardest parts to conserve, and yet they, more than any other part of the boundary, evoke a sense of the medieval Forest boundary. The majority of these are in the most remote parts of the boundary, usually in areas with the least access paths, for example the boggy and wet area between Alderman's Barrow and Black Barrow (section 1). It is recommended that these should be formally monitored every five years.

## **Individual areas and sites**

The condition of individual areas and monuments forming the Royal Forest boundary was noted as part of this survey. These were recorded as a gazetteer of sites and should be referred to separately. (See appendix 2).



Areas of the Royal Forest boundary are built of dry stone wall in varying condition





Boundary stones still mark part of the Royal Forest boundary. It is likely that there were many more of these stones marking the medieval boundary of the Forest.



Significant areas of the Royal Forest boundary are formed of earth bank, sometimes with a beech hedge.



Prehistoric barrows were used as boundary markers in the original perambulations of the Forest. Setta Barrow (pictured here) is notable for the earth bank boundary constructed over the middle.





A few of the Royal Forest boundary stones are identified by name, such as Sloley Stone. This stone is unusual in featuring an inscription.



Situated along the Forest Boundary, these gateposts are now precariously placed over an eroding gully. Most likely placed under the Knight family, they serve as a reminder of the dynamic nature of the Forest boundary.

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# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1: Example field record sheet

### Royal Forest Boundary Survey Recording Sheet

Start Grid Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

End Grid Reference (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

HER Monument ID (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Boundary Marker:

Barrow	
Boundary Stone	
Cairn	
Dry Stone Wall	
Earth Bank	
Gateway	
River	
Natural Feature	
Other (please record type below)	

Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Condition: Stable/Deteriorating? \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph Reference Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix 2: Gazetteer of boundary sections and sites

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
1.1	SS83638 42458		MEM 15360	Boundary Stone	0.68	0.22	0.15	Stable	1(W), 2(N)	Erosion hollow is around 0.2 to 0.3m deep and 2m wide. Stone is clearly visible but low in landscape.
1.2	SS83566 42702		MEM 15374	Boundary Stone				Not Found		Stone not currently visible, no obvious erosion hollow.
1.3	SS83542 42803		MEM 15362	Boundary Stone	0.43	0.14	0.15	Stable	3(N), 4(W)	Erosion hollow 1.5m wide and 0.2m deep. Erosion hollow also contains other stones set in the earth, most likely packing stones. The boundary stone is very worn/smooth on all sides making it most likely medieval or earlier in date.
1.4	SS83515 42892		MEM 15375	Boundary Stone				Not Found		No stone found, no visible erosion hollow.
1.5	SS83361 43313		MEM 15364	Boundary Stone				Not Found		No stone found, no visible erosion hollow.
1.6	SS83347 43420		MEM 15376	Boundary Stone				Not Found		No stone found, possible erosion hollow but likely WWII period features.
1.7	SS83331 43503		MEM 15377	Boundary Stone				Not Found		No stone found, possible erosion hollow.
1.8	SS83316 43604		MSO 7941	Boundary Stone	0.89	0.11	0.52	Stable	5(W), 6(W), 7(N)	Wide and shallow erosion hollow, 2m wide and 0.1m deep. Contains loose stones at base of boundary stone. Heavily weathered, probably medieval or earlier in origin.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
1.9	SS83280 43839		MSO 7950	Boundary Stone				Not Found		No stone found, no visible erosion hollow.
1.10.	SS83257 43962		MEM 15368	Boundary Stone	0.9	0.23	0.28	Stable	8(NW), 9(NE), 10(SE)	Recently recumbent, small stones at base. Very deep erosion hollow, 0.3-0.4m 1.5m wide.
1.11	SS83253 44009		MEM15382	Boundary Stone	0.32	0.07	0.26	Stable	11(E), 12(N)	Small erosion hollow. Stones around boundary stone.
1.12	SS83243 44053		MEM15381	Boundary Stone	0.71	0.07	0.28	Unstable	13(N), 14(E)	Recumbent, was covered in vegetation. Potential for loss in vegetation cover.
2.1	SS83213 44215	SS83000 44212		Earth Bank	1 on average			Mix of both		The old parish boundary wall. It is an earth hedge bank lined with stone along much of its length. This section of the wall is mostly stable and in good condition with a few gaps.
2.2	SS83000 44212	SS82880 44211		Earth Bank				Stable	3(E)	Stone facing on both sides, same as previous section but better condition. Vegetation on top.
2.3	SS82880 44211	SS82594 44250		Earth Bank				Stable	4(E)	Continued, more exposed. Less vegetation. Lots of gaps and eroded areas, animal holes.
2.4	SS82602 44257	SS81988 44401		Earth Bank				Unstable	5(W), 6(S)	Less well built than earlier sections, parts of stone lining have collapsed into ditch.
2.5	SS81988 44401	SS81832 44444		Dry Stone Wall	1.5 or higher			Stable	7(W)	Well built wall, next to quarry area.
2.6	SS81832 44444	SS81477 44297		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	8(W), 9(E)	Much of 2.6 is completely collapsed. There are parts that are standing but little or none stands at original height.
2.7	SS81477 44297	SS81279 43340		Earth Bank				Stable	10(W), 11(S)	Stone facing, originally only visible on north side.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
2.8	S581279 43340	S580901 43347		Earth Bank				Stable	13(E)	Similar to 2.7 but wall returns to E to W line. Stone facing mostly on N side. Animal tracks and holes.
2.9	S580901 43347	S579906 43246		Earth Bank				Stable	14(W)	Stone faced, better condition than 2.8, no animal tracks.
2.10	S579906 43246	SS 79817 43305		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	15(NW)	Collapsed dry stone wall. None standing. Fence to one side.
2.11	S579819 43307	S579698 43349		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	16(NW)	Mostly collapsed, some upright parts.
2.12	S579698 43349	S579604 43374		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	17(WNW)	Same as 2.11 but crosses over river.
2.13	S579604 43374	S579600 43393		Natural Feature				Stable	18(N)	Stone wall following river merges into a bare cliff face.
2.14	SS 79600 43393	S579466 43631		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	19(N)	Dry stone wall into 3.1.
3.1	S579466 43631	S579433 43699		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	1(W)	Lots of collapsed segments, no capping stones. Start of this section buried under moss and grass; the same happens at the end of this section.
3.2	S579409 43613	S579165 43535		Dry Stone Wall	1 on average			Mix of both	2(W), 3(E)	Start collapsed and covered with moss. Upright section with many gaps, with some capping stones. Many quarries along the side of the valley.
3.3	S579166 43535	S579134 43517		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	4(E)	This section of wall has collapsed into the river.
3.4	S579135 43517	S578961 43441		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	5(W), 6(E)	Mostly full height with capping stones. A few small breaks but no signs of recent damage.
3.5	S578961 43441	S578841 43438		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	7(W), 8(W)	Similar to 3.4 but slightly worse condition.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
3.6	SS78841 43438	SS78760 43431		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	9(W)	Being rebuilt by volunteers. The rebuilt parts are thicker than original are small sections connected with fence rather than dry stone wall.
3.7	SS78758 43431	SS78340 4337		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	10(W), 11(E)	Rebuilt section. Gaps with fence in them. A couple of points missing capping stones. The end of this section is completely collapsed.
3.8	SS78341 43338	SS78092 43290		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	12(W)	Most of this section still has capping stones.
3.9	SS78092 43291	SS78086 43291		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	13(W)	Collapsed section. Stone stile at one end. Very little rubble.
3.10	SS78086 43291	SS77981 43293		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	14(W)	Capping stones, maintained or rebuilt.
3.11	SS77981 43299	SS77456 43483		River				N/A	15(W), 16(E)	Possible remains of a wall/bank next to the river.
3.12	SS77456 43483	SS77250 43460		Earth Bank				Stable	17(W)	Stone faced with a fence on top. Dense vegetation cover.
3.13	SS77250 43460	SS76503 43250		Earth Bank				Unstable	18(W)	Low bank partly hidden by vegetation. Situated on boggy ground.
4.1	SS76503 43250	SS75052 42950		Earth Bank				Stable	1(W)	Stone faced wide bank, fence on top. Low level erosion due to animal tracks.
4.2	SS75052 42950	SS75021 42958		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	4(W), 5(S)	Collapsed dry stone wall. Forms small grass covered bank running downhill. Fence alongside shows the line of the forest boundary. The two large stones shown in the images could have been used as boundary stones and gateposts throughout different periods. The main danger to these sections is the erosion and collapse of the bank by the stream.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
4.3	SS75021 42958	SS74991 42965		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	6(E)	Rebuilt section. Seems to form a retaining wall for the bank.
4.4	SS74991 42965	SS74900 42986		Earth Bank				Stable	7(W)	Mostly collapsed section of stone faced bank. Some areas where nothing remains of the boundary.
4.5	SS74900 42986	SS74706 43049		Earth Bank				Stable	8(W)	Continued from 4.4 but in better condition. Stone facing only on the north side of the bank.
4.6	SS74706 43049	SS74423 43313		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	9(NW), 10(NW)	Decayed state for the first 10m beyond crossing the river. Beyond this the wall is more stable. Occasional breaks in wall, there is also a nearby quarry likely the source for the stone.
4.7	SS74423 43313	SS74226 43417		Earth Bank				Stable	11(SW)	A low earth bank with a few areas of stone facing visible.
4.8	SS74226 43417	SS74147 43435		Earth Bank				Unstable	12(N)	Severe erosion on south side of the bank. Much of the earth bank is unstable and eroded.
4.9	SS74147 43435	SS74073 43514		Earth Bank	1 - 1.5			Stable	16(W)	Runs parallel to a low earth mound on the south side. The mound does not follow the whole section.
4.10	SS74046 43522			Boundary Stone	0.34	0.12	0.26	Stable	17(N), 18(E)	No obvious erosion hollow.
4.11	SS73985 43556			Boundary Stone	0.39	0.08	0.33	Stable	19(E), 20(S), 21(W)	Set in the middle of a cairn which is visible as a semicircle of stones. Erosion hollow is around 0.8m in width.
4.12	SS73942 43579			Boundary Stone	0.69		0.21	Unstable	22(N), 23(W)	No erosion hollow, recumbent.
4.13	SS73838 43628			Boundary Stone	0.7	0.25	0.4	Stable	24(N), 25(E)	No erosion hollow, recumbent. Smaller stones found at the base.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
4.14	SS73809 43629	SS73482 43596		Earth Bank				Stable	26(W)	Some of the boundary stones that previously existed along this section have most likely been incorporated into the bank.
4.15	SS73440 43597			Boundary Stone				Unstable	27(N), 28(W)	Recumbent, probably been moved from original position. Not set in the ground.
4.16	SS73247 43692			Boundary Stone	0.55	0.15	0.24	Stable	29(S), 30(E)	Upright but tilted. Large erosion hollow, 2.2m in diameter.
4.17	SS73160 43714			Boundary Stone	0.5	0.08	0.17	Stable	33(N), 34(W)	No erosion hollow, recumbent. Almost completely overgrown.
4.18	SS72896 43632			Boundary Stone	0.81	0.12	0.52	Stable	35 (N), 36(E)	Not upright, leans at angle. Erosion hollow is filled with reeds.
4.19	SS72869 43615			Boundary Stone	0.73	0.19	0.15	Stable	37(S), 38(W)	Leans at angle, erosion hollow contains reeds. Stones around base.
4.20.	SS72821 43581			Boundary Stone	0.6	0.04	0.31	Stable	39(S), 40(W)	No erosion hollow, leans at angle.
4.21	SS72777 43553			Boundary Stone	0.65		0.13	Stable	41(N), 42(W)	No erosion hollow, recumbent. Set in waterlogged ground.
4.22	SS72748 43533			Boundary Stone	0.53		0.56	Unstable	43(N), 44(W)	No erosion hollow, recumbent, loose.
4.23	SS72571 43456			Boundary Stone	0.63	0.08	0.39	Stable	45(S), 46(W)	Upright but tilted. Large erosion hollow, 2.3m in diameter and filled with reeds.
4.24	SS72521 43451			Boundary Stone	0.78		0.17	Stable	31(S), 32(W)	Recumbent, no erosion hollow.
4.25	SS72168 43589			Boundary Stone	0.45	0.13	0.18	Stable	47(N), 48(W)	Upright but at a tilt. Waterlogged base.
4.26	SS71984 43625			Boundary Stone	0.26	0.05	0.42	Stable	49(S), 50(W)	Recumbent and waterlogged, no erosion hollow.
4.27	SS71800 43590			Boundary Stone	0.83	0.07	0.32	Stable	51(N), 52(E)	Waterlogged, no erosion hollow.
4.28	SS71514 43480		MSO 6845	Boundary Stone	0.36	0.38	0.56	Stable	53(E), 54(E)	No erosion hollow. Marks one of the corners of the Royal Forest boundary.

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
5.1	SS71514 43476	SS71554 43368		Earth Bank				Stable	1(S)	Runs directly south to Wood Barrow. Most likely previously marked by boundary stones but none were visible.
5.2	SS71554 43368	SS71648 42514		Open field				Not Found		Poor condition near Wood Barrow but rapidly improves moving away. Fence on both sides, beech trees on top. Boundary officially follows road from where it meets it to Edgerley stone.
5.3	SS71648 42514	SS71962 40704		Earth Bank				Stable	2 (S)	Large upright stone, now used as gatepost so may have been moved for this purpose (but thought unlikely). Holes drilled in for this purpose
6.1	SS71962 40704		MSO 6842	Boundary Stone	1.45	0.33	0.65	Stable	1(N), 2 (E)	The boundary cuts straight through an open field to the next feature.
6.2	SS71964 40706	SS71761 39700		Open field						
6.3	SS71761 39700	SS71757 39361		Earth Bank				Stable	5 (N)	Stone faced earth bank and track way
6.4	SS71748 39625		MSO 7145?	Boundary Stone	0.5	0.21	0.68	Stable	3 (N), 4 (W)	Known as Hore Stone. 2 large recumbent stones next to this stone. These are loose. Much surface stone in the area
6.5	SS71778 39875		MSO 6808	Boundary Stone	1.28	0.13	0.56	Stable	6 (N), 7 (E)	Upright slab inscribed with date '1742'
6.6	SS71757 39361	SS72218 38641		Earth Bank				Stable	8 (N)	Stone faced earth bank on left side of road. Predominantly beech hedge on top of bank
6.7	SS72218 38641	SS72977 37498		Earth Bank				Stable	10 (S), 11 (E), 12 (N)	Stone faced earth bank diverging from the road. Cuts through Setta Barrow complex (10). (11) shows kerb of barrow. The barrow is likely to have been a boundary marker for this area of the forest.



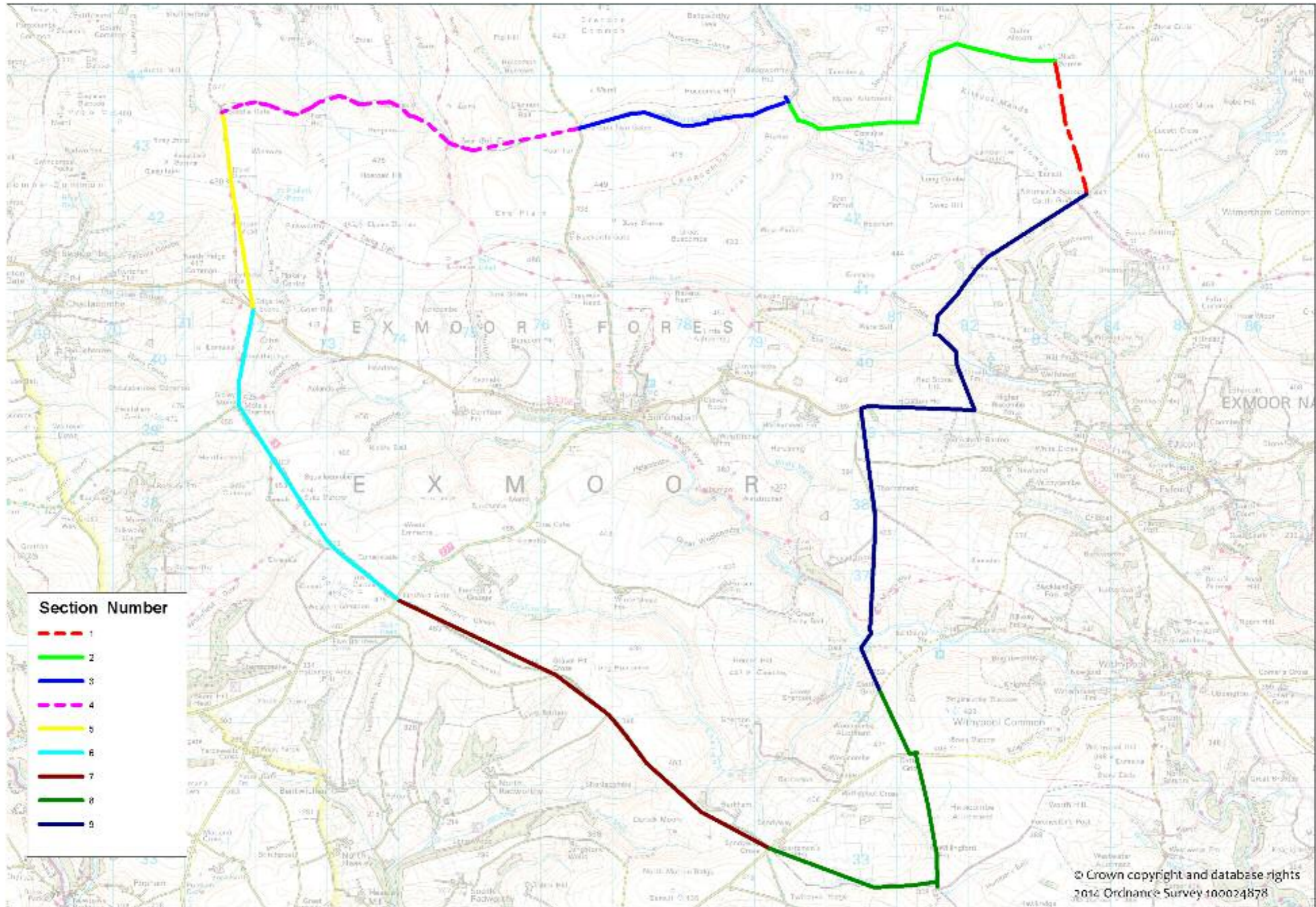
Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
6.8	SS72977 37498	SS73141 37323		Earth Bank				Stable	13 (S), 14 (S), 15 (S), 16 (N)	A collapsed wall on stone faced earth bank. Stable as not deteriorating further but possibility of damage from livestock
6.9	SS73141 37323	SS73974 36655		Earth Bank				Stable	17 (S)	Stone faced earth bank on both sides of road. Any breaks are fenced.
7.1	SS73997 36635	SS76205 35582		Earth Bank				Stable	1 (SE)	Stone faced earth bank. Boundary is bank on NE side of road
7.2	SS76205 35582	SS76954 35026		Earth Bank				Stable	2 (SE)	Hedgerow and small trees on bank
7.3	SS76954 35026	SS77197 34731		Earth Bank				Stable	3 (SE)	Banks on both side of road
7.4	SS77197 34731	SS77483 34341		Earth Bank				Stable	4 (SE), 5 (NE)	Bank on south side changes from hedgerow to smaller earth bank.
7.5	SS77483 34341	SS78246 33660		Earth Bank				Stable	6 (SE)	Bank on both sides of road. There are a couple of mounds near the bank
7.6	SS77909 33995		MSO 6998	Boundary Stone	1.31	0.12	0.53	Stable	9 (NE), 10 (SW)	Lots of vegetation growth, stone could easily be covered. Holes to suggest was previously used as gatepost. Recumbent
7.7	SS78246 33660	SS79206 33147		Earth Bank				Stable	11 (SE), 12 (NW)	At the end of this section there is a gap before the next section
8.1	SS79204 33138	SS80675 32600		River				N/A	1 (E)	Boundary marked by water course.
8.2	SS80675 32600	SS81207 32631		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	2 (E), 3 (E)	Follows the course of the river on the north side of the bank. Local stone - quarries nearby. Some sections collapsed
8.3	SS81207 32631	SS81562 32680		River				N/A	4 (W)	Boundary follows watercourse, no other obvious boundary features
8.4	SS81562 32610	SS81549 33097		Earth Bank				Stable	5 (N), 6 (E)	The stone facing on much of this bank is in good condition, some areas of damage
8.5	SS81549 33097	SS81530 33198		Earth Bank				Stable	7 (W)	Bank diverges from track way

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
8.6	SS81530 33198	SS81430 33760		Dry Stone Wall				Unstable	8 (S), 9 (NW)	Dense vegetation growth around wall, high percentage of capping stone coverage remains despite deterioration, some collapsing areas
8.7	SS81430 33760	SS81257 34478		Earth Bank				Stable	11 (N)	Trees on bank
8.8	SS81257 34478	SS81170 34480		Earth Bank				Stable	12 (E)	Runs parallel to road, trees on bank
8.9	SS81170 34480	SS80743 35385		Earth Bank				Stable	13 (N)	Predominantly beech hedge
9.1	SS80743 35385	SS80492 35962		Earth Bank				Stable	4 (S)	Mostly beech topped, a few deteriorating areas
9.2	SS80492 35962	SS80635 36164		River				N/A	1 (NE)	Boundary follows a short section of watercourse, no other boundary features
9.3	SS80635 36164	SS80610 36242		Earth Bank				Stable	2 (N)	Beech topped, dry stream bed on E side, loose stony ditch
9.4	SS80610 36242	SS80622 36285		Earth Bank				Stable	3 (N)	Most of the stone facing has collapsed off the bank.
9.5	SS80622 36285	SS80684 37538		Earth Bank				Stable	6 (N), 7 (S), 8 (W)	Stone facing mainly intact.
9.6	SS80684 37538	SS80691 37813		Earth Bank				Stable	9 (N)	Beech hedge, most of facing obscured by vegetation, runs along W side of road
9.7	SS80691 37813	SS80488 39323		Earth Bank				Stable	10 (N)	Beech hedge bank on both sides of road
9.8	SS80488 39323	SS80580 39358		Dry Stone Wall				Stable	11 (E)	Runs along north side of road
9.9	SS80580 39358	SS82088 39303		Earth Bank				Stable	15 (W)	Beech banks on both sides of road. Boundary marked by bank on N side
9.10	SS82088 39303	SS82043 39417		Open field				N/A	11 (S)	No visible boundary marker across this field. Does contain medieval field boundaries
9.11	SS82043 39417	SS81838 39417		Earth Bank				Stable	12 (N), 13 (N), 14 (S)	Beech topped bank, some grown into full trees
9.12	SS81838 39930	SS81823 40133		Earth Bank				Stable		Small trees on bank

Section and sheet number	Start Grid Reference	End Grid Reference (if applicable)	HER Monument ID (if applicable)	Type of Boundary Marker	Height (m)	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Condition	Photograph reference number(s)	Description
9.13	SS81823 40133	SS81584 40357		River				N/A		No other obvious boundary markers.
9.14	SS81529 40364	SS81569 40629		Earth Bank				Stable		Large trees on top of bank, visible stone facing.
9.15	SS81569 40629	SS81840 40918		Open field				N/A		Boundary goes across a field. Stream at bottom of valley Sparcombe Water may previously have been used to mark boundary.
9.16	SS81840 40918	SS81932 41052		Earth Bank				Stable	23 (N)	Stone faced earth bank with multiple beech trees growing on top of bank. Very wet area at base of bank.
9.17	SS81932 41052	SS82120 41303		Open field				N/A	24(NE)	Boundary cuts across open field till it meets opposite corner and earth bank. There is a standing stone in the centre of the field but it cannot be definitely counted as part of the boundary.
9.18	SS82120 41303	SS82284 41465		Earth Bank				Stable	25(NE)	Earth bank with little visible evidence of stone facing. However, vegetation and a hedgerow on top of the bank obscure view of the bank.
9.19	SS82284 41465	SS82384 41522		Earth Bank				Stable	26(NE)	Well maintained with obvious stone facing. Fence and grass along the top of the bank.
9.20.	SS82384 41522	SS83654 42337		Earth Bank				Stable	27(NE), 29(SW)	Vegetation (mostly grass) initially covers much of the bank with the remains of a fence on top. This gives way to trees on top of the bank with a clear view of the stone facing of the bank. This ends close to the start point of the survey.

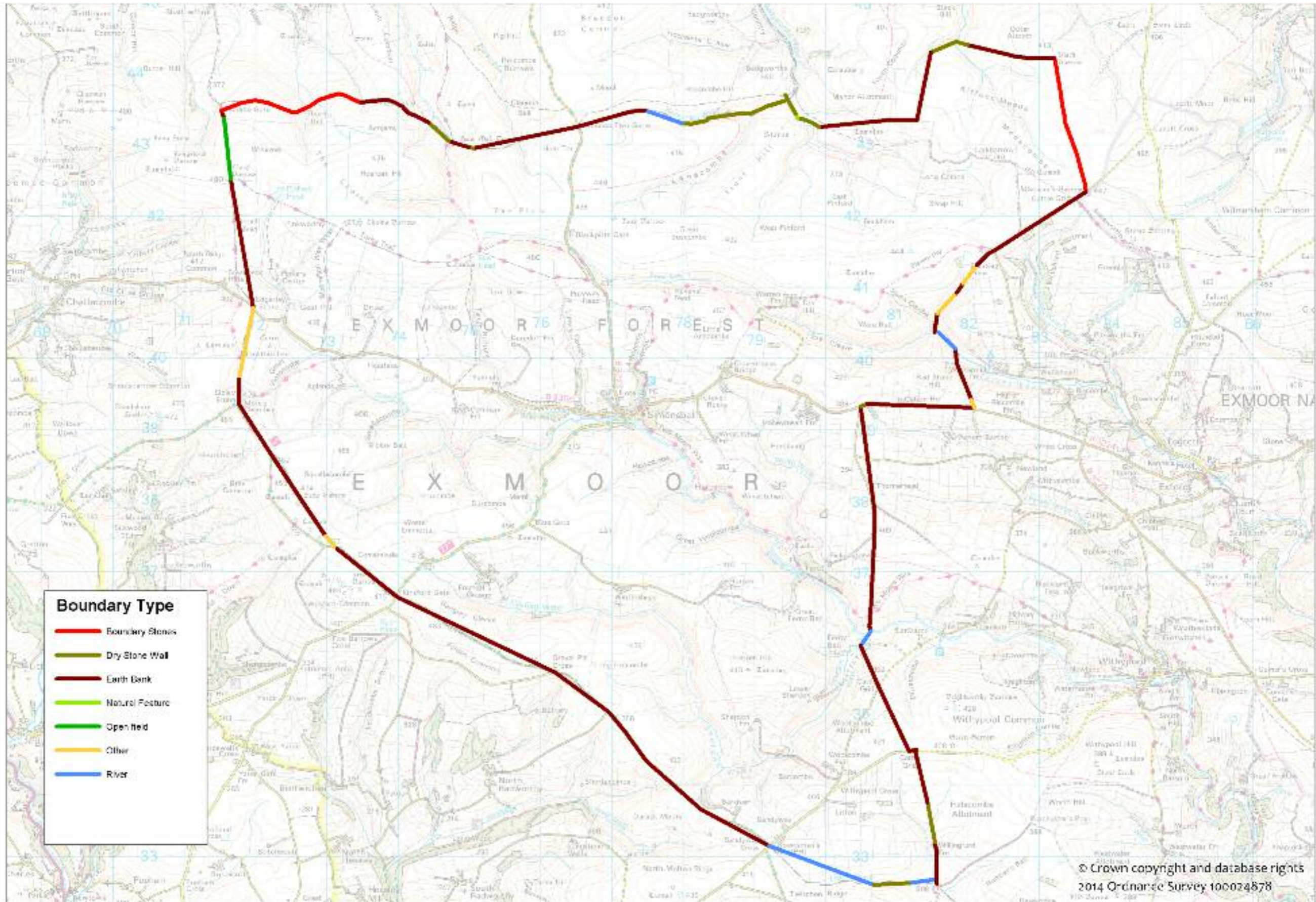


Appendix 3: Map showing sections referred to in this report





Appendix 4: Map showing boundary by type





Appendix 5: Map showing the condition of the boundary

